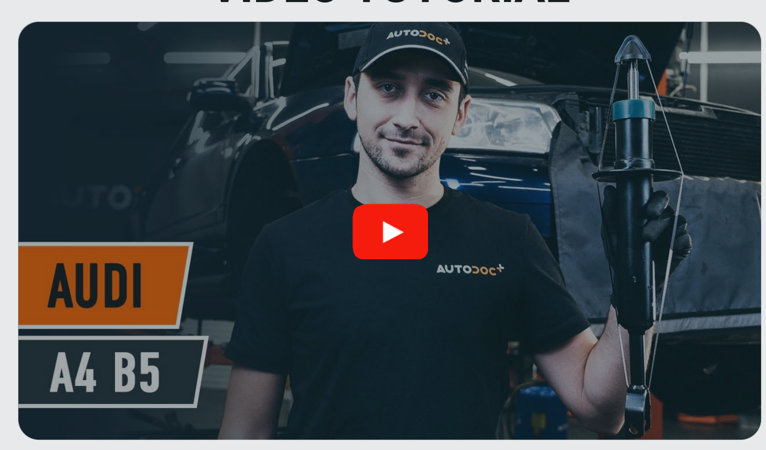
AUTODOC CLUB

How to change front suspension strut on **Audi A4 B5 saloon** – replacement guide





VIDEO TUTORIAL



Important!

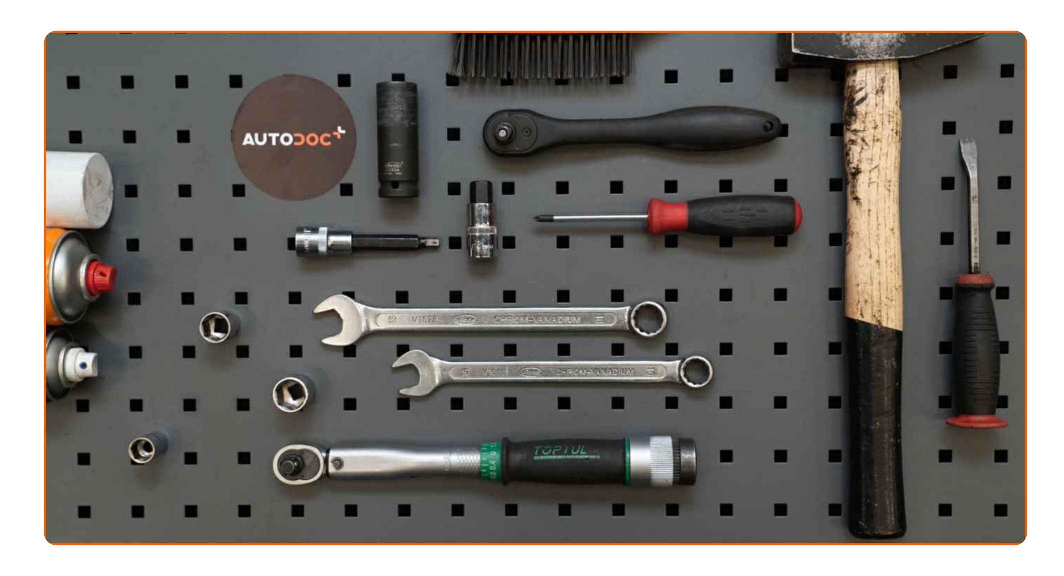
This replacement procedure can be used for:
AUDI A4 Saloon (8D2, B5) 1.8, AUDI A4 Saloon (8D2, B5) 1.8 T, AUDI A4 Saloon (8D2, B5) 2.6, AUDI A4 Saloon (8D2, B5) 2.8, AUDI A4 Saloon (8D2, B5) 1.9 TDI, AUDI A4 Saloon (8D2, B5) 1.8 quattro, AUDI A4 Saloon (8D2, B5) 1.8 T quattro, AUDI A4 Saloon (8D2, B5) 2.6 quattro, AUDI A4 Saloon (8D2, B5) 2.8 quattro, AUDI A4 Avant (8D5, B5) 1.6, AUDI A4 Avant (8D5, B5) 1.8, AUDI A4 Avant (8D5, B5) 1.8 T, AUDI A4 Avant (8D5, B5) 2.6, AUDI A4 Avant (8D5, B5) 2.8, AUDI A4 Avant (8D5, B5) 1.9 TDI, (+ 17)

The steps may slightly vary depending on the car design.





REPLACEMENT: SUSPENSION STRUT – AUDI A4 B5 SALOON. TOOLS YOU MIGHT NEED:



- Wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- Brake cleaner
- Copper grease
- Torque wrench
- Combination spanner #16
- Combination spanner #18
- Drive socket # 13
- Drive socket # 16
- Drive socket # 18
- HEX bit No.H6
- HEX bit No.H14
- Wheel impact socket #17
- Ratchet wrench
- Hammer
- Tap wrench
- Hydraulic strut spring compressor
- Hydraulic transmission jack
- Crow bar
- Fender cover
- Wheel chock

BUY TOOLS



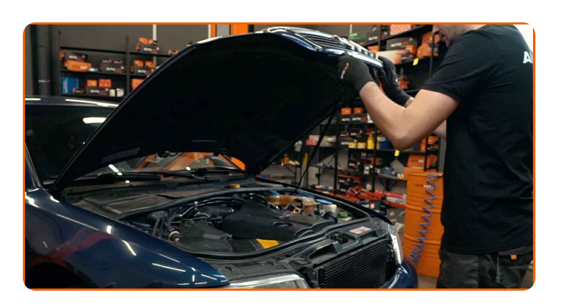


Replacement: suspension strut – Audi A4 B5 saloon. Tip from AUTODOC:

- Both shock struts of the front suspension should be replaced simultaneously.
- The replacement procedure is identical for the left and right shock struts of the front suspension.
- Please note: all work on the car – Audi A4 B5 saloon – should be done with the engine switched off.

CARRY OUT REPLACEMENT IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

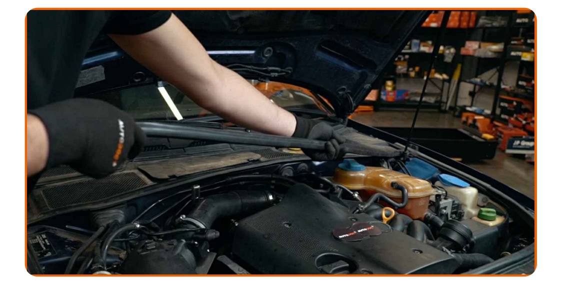
1 Open the bonnet.



2 Use a fender protection cover to prevent damaging paintwork and plastic parts of the car.



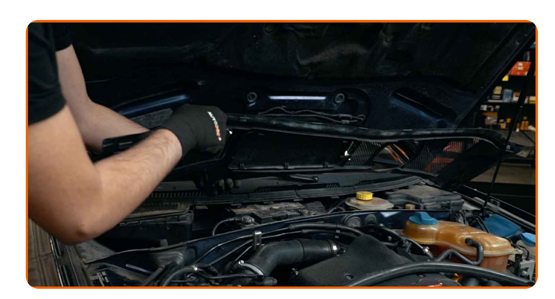
3 Remove the cowl grille seal.



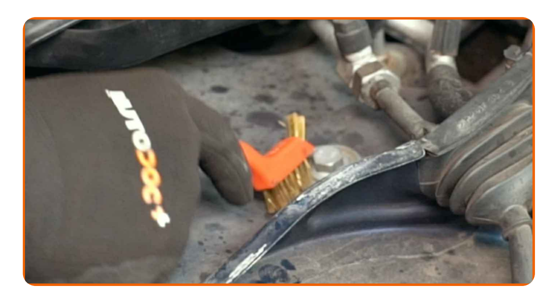




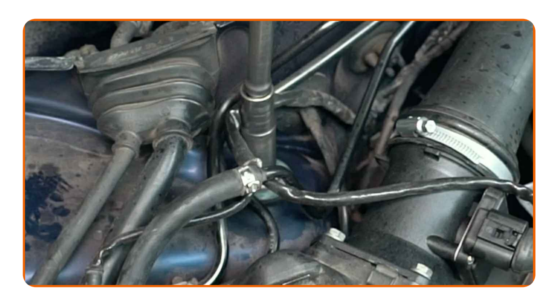
4 Raise up and remove the cowl grille.



5 Clean the fasteners of the shock strut upper mount. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

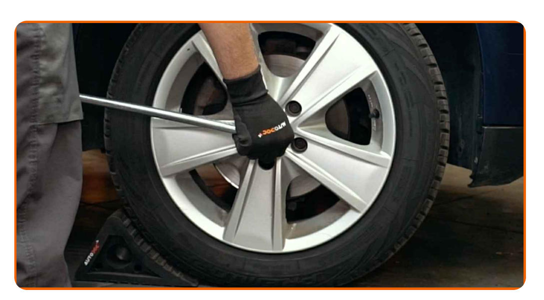


6 Loosen the upper fasteners of the suspension strut. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



7 Secure the wheels with chocks.

8 Loosen the fastener of the driveshaft. Use HEX No.H14. Use a tap wrench.







9 Loosen the wheel mounting bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



10 Raise the front of the car and secure on supports.



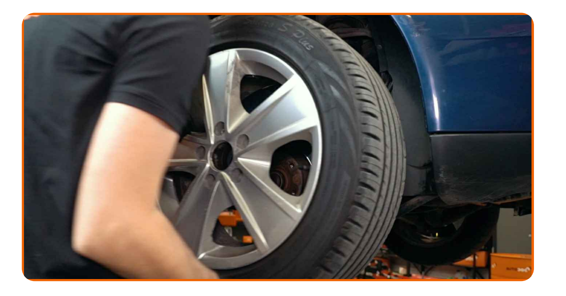
11 Unscrew the wheel bolts.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while unscrewing the fastening bolts. Audi A4 B5 saloon

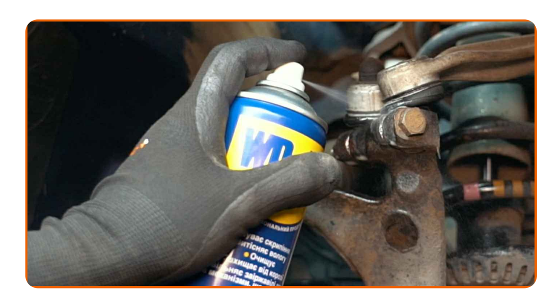
12 Remove the wheel.



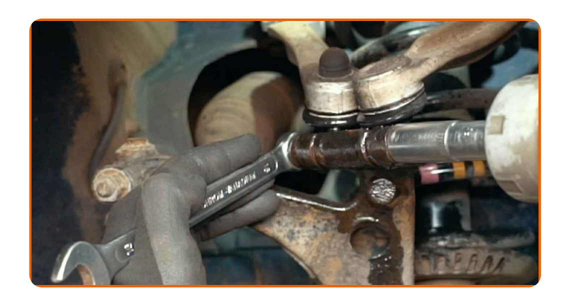




13 Clean all joints of the arm. Clean the fastener connecting the tie rod end to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



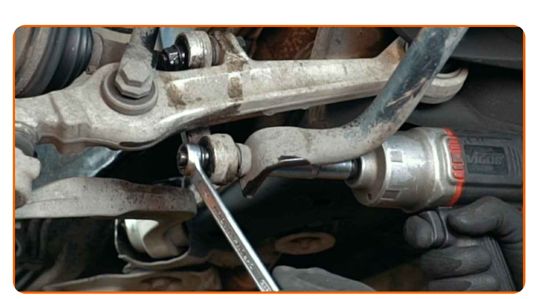
14 Unscrew the upper arm fastenings. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



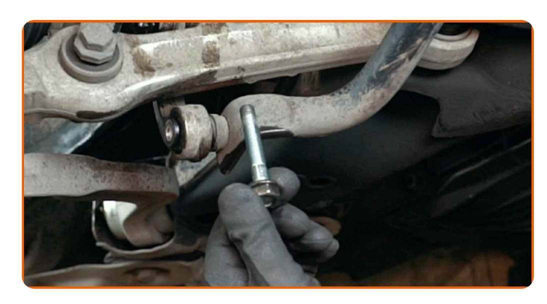
15 Clean the stabiliser link fasteners. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



16 Unscrew the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the stabilizer bar. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



17 Remove the fastening bolt.



18 Remove the stabiliser link.

19 Clean the lower fastener connecting the suspension strut to the steering knuckle. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



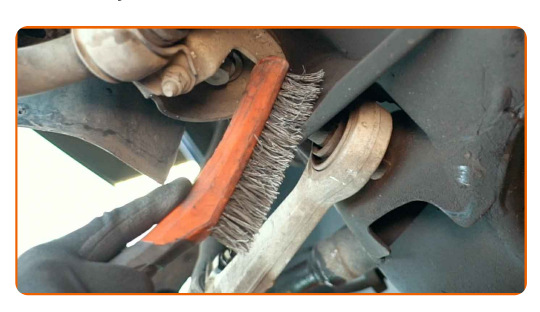
20 Unscrew the lower fastener connecting the shock strut to the steering knuckle. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



21 Remove the fastening bolt.



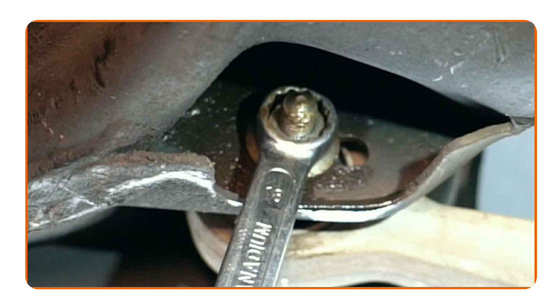
22 Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



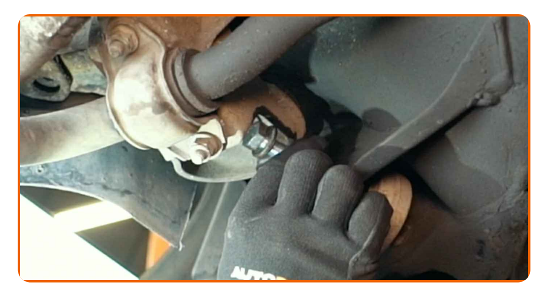
AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – Audi A4 B5 saloon. After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

23 Unscrew the fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a tap wrench.



24 Remove the fastening bolt.



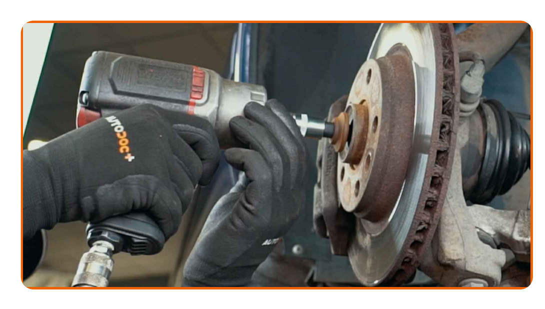




25 Detach the control arm. Use a crowbar.

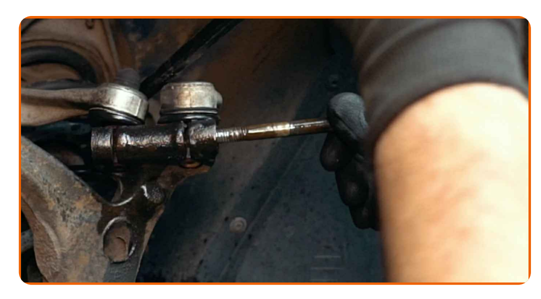


26 Remove the fastening bolt. Use HEX No.H14.

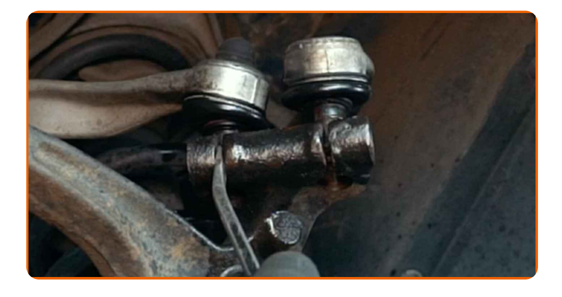


27 Prop up the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.

28 Remove the fastening bolt.



29 Remove the control arms. Use a crowbar. Use a hammer.



30 Detach the driveshaft from the steering knuckle.



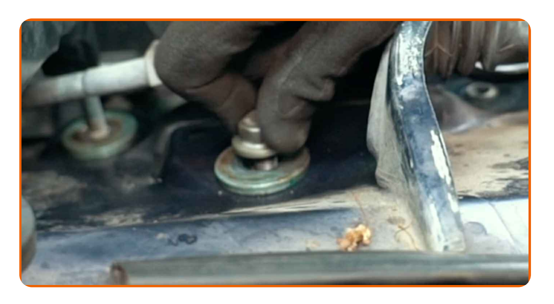


Replacement: suspension strut – Audi A4 B5 saloon. AUTODOC recommends:

- Make sure that the drive shaft is not unloaded (when the car is jacked).



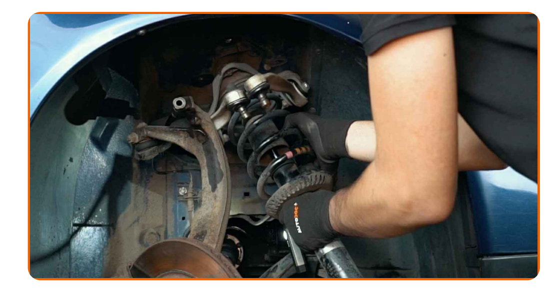
31 Unscrew the upper fasteners of the shock strut.



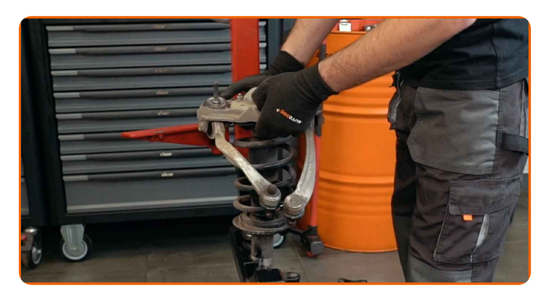
AUTODOC recommends:

- Audi A4 B5 saloon – To avoid injury, hold the suspension strut while unscrewing the fastening bolts.

32 Remove the suspension strut.



33 Set the shock absorber strut on the spring compressor tool.







Replacement: suspension strut – Audi A4 B5 saloon. Professionals recommend:

- Note that when using a spring compressor, spring coils need to be securely gripped, compressing the spring on the opposite sides.
- Ensure the correct position of the spring in the retainer.
- Make sure that the spring coils tightly entered the lock handles.

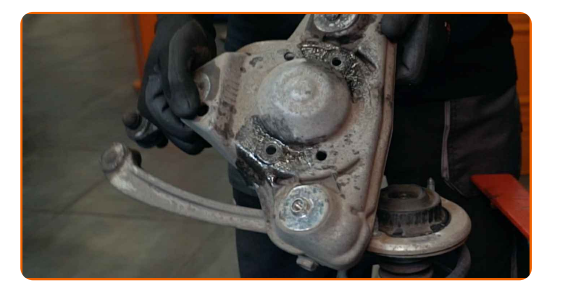
34 Clean the upper fastener of the suspension strut mount. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



35 Unscrew the top fastening of the shock strut mount. Use a drive socket #13. Use a ratchet wrench.



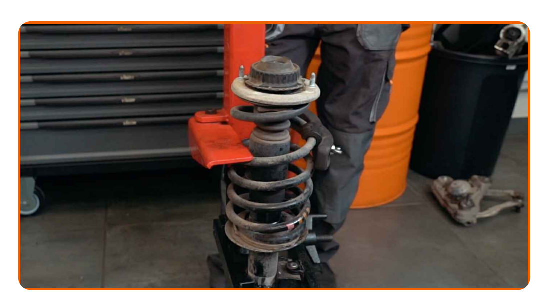
36 Remove the upper strut mount together with the suspension arms.



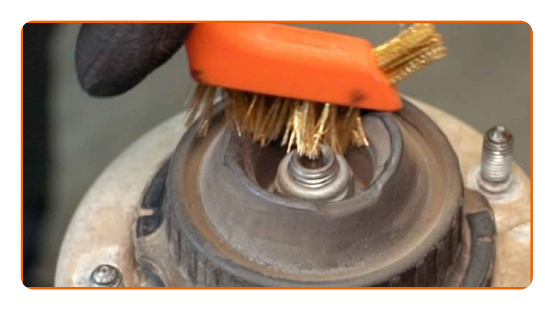




37 Compress the spring.



38 Treat the shock strut rod. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



39 Unscrew the strut piston rod nut. Use a drive socket #18. Use HEX No.H6. Use a ratchet wrench.



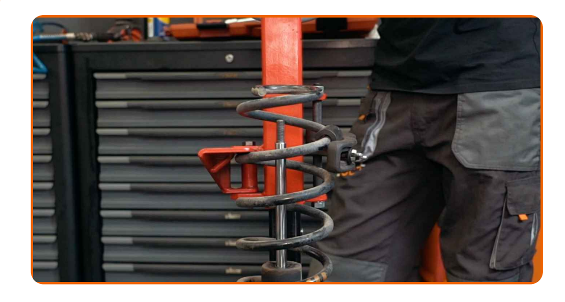
40 Remove the shock absorber mount, boot and bump stop.



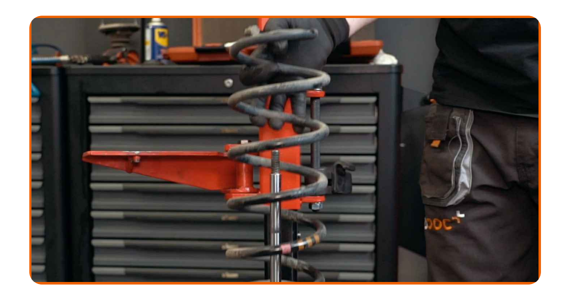
AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – Audi A4 B5 saloon. Carefully inspect the mount, the boot, and the bump stop of the shock absorber. Replace if necessary.

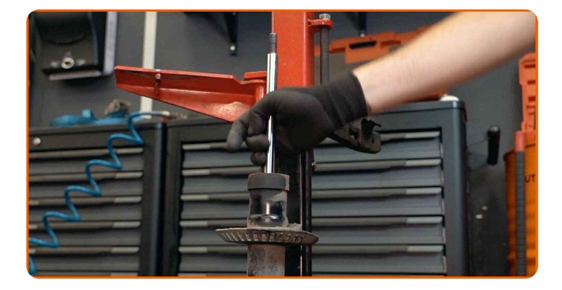
41 Release the coil spring.



42 Remove the spring.



43 Remove the old shock absorber from the hydraulic coil spring compressor.



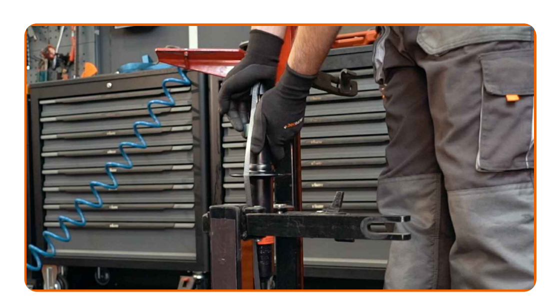
Replacement: suspension strut – Audi A4 B5 saloon. Tip from AUTODOC experts:

- Before installing a new shock absorber you should pump it manually 3-5 times.





44 Install the new shock absorber on the hydraulic coil spring compressor.

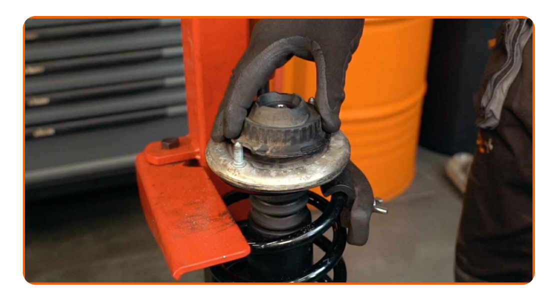


45 Install the spring on the shock absorber.



46 Compress the spring.

47 Install the mount, boot and bump stop onto a new shock absorber.



48 Tighten the shock strut piston rod nut. Use HEX No.H6. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 50 Nm torque.



Replacement: suspension strut – Audi A4 B5 saloon. AUTODOC experts recommend:

- Check to make sure the spring is positioned correctly. Avoid its misalignment.

49

Decompress the spring.



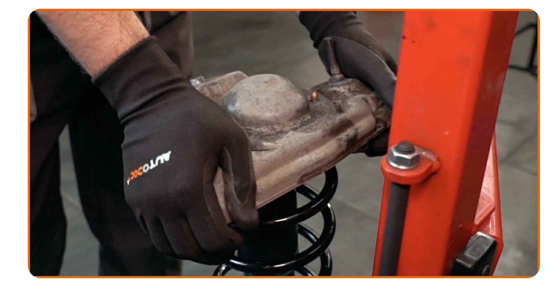
50

Treat the shock strut rod. Use copper grease.



51

Install the upper strut mount together with the suspension arms.



52

Tighten the upper fastener of the shock absorber strut mount. Use a drive socket #13. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 20 nm torque.







53 Treat the fasteners of the shock strut mount. Use copper grease.

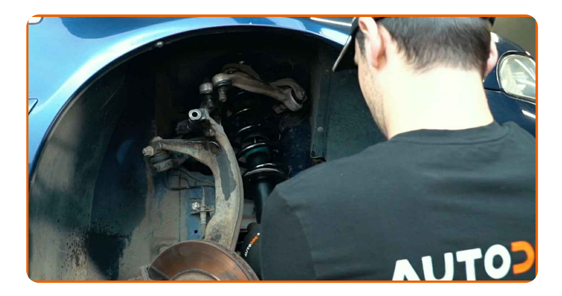
54 Remove the assembled shock strut.



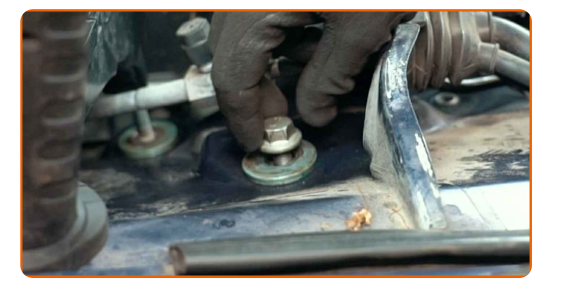
55 Clean the mounting seats of the shock strut. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



56 Install the shock strut into the wheel arch.



57 Secure the upper fasteners of the shock strut. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench. Do not tighten it.



AUTODOC recommends:

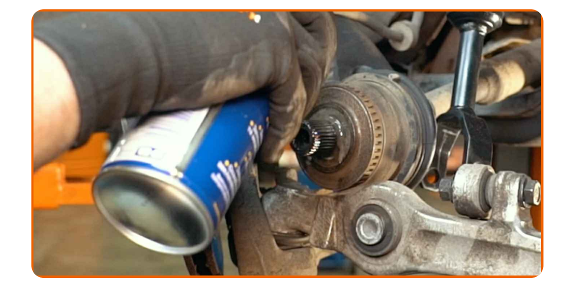
- Audi A4 B5 saloon – To avoid injury, hold the suspension strut while screwing in the fastening bolts.

58 Clean all joints of the arm. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.

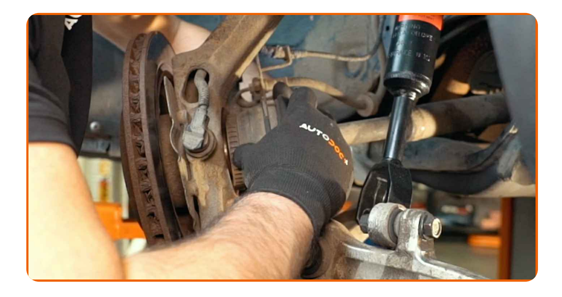




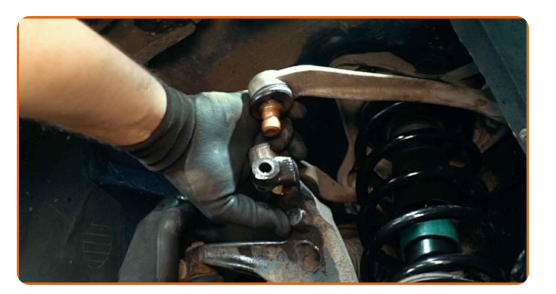
59 Clean the splines of the drive shaft CV joint. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



60 Install the drive shaft.



61 Install the control arms. Use a crowbar.



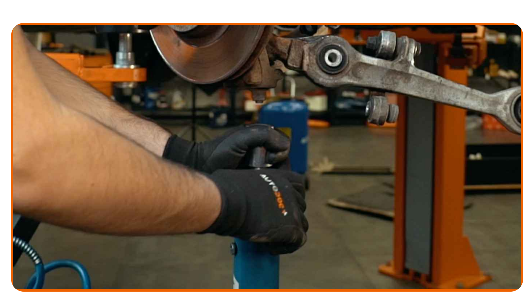




62 Install the fastening bolt.



63 Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.



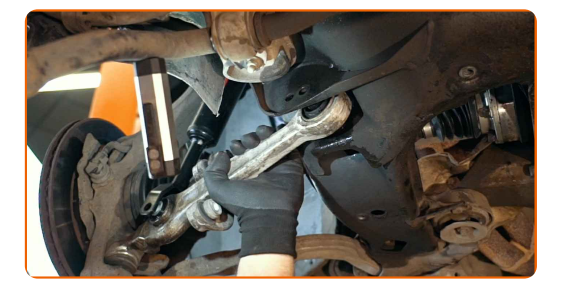
AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – Audi A4 B5 saloon. Lower the transmission jack smoothly, without jerks, to avoid damaging components and mechanisms.

64 Clean the mounting seats of the shock strut. Use a wire brush. Use WD-40 spray.



65 Attach the control arm.

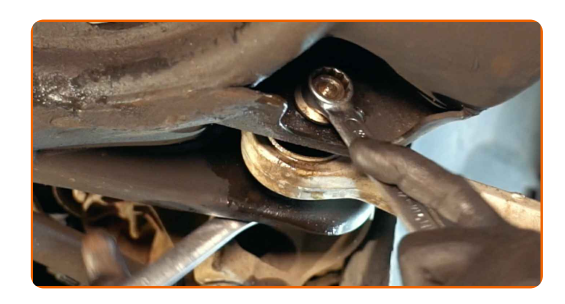






66 Install the fastening bolt.

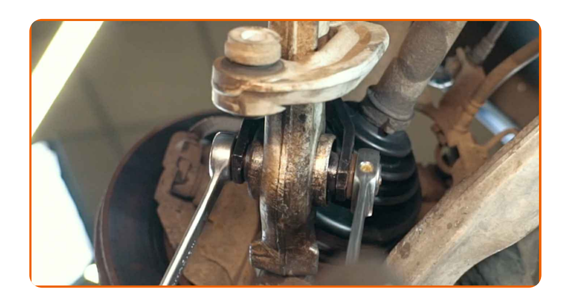
67 Screw the fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



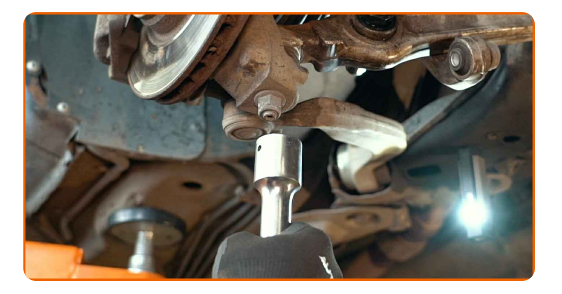
68 Install the fastening bolt.



69 Screw in the lower fastener of the shock strut. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a ratchet wrench.



70 Prop up the steering knuckle. Use a hydraulic transmission jack.

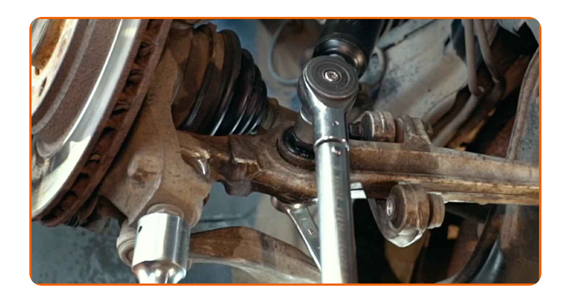






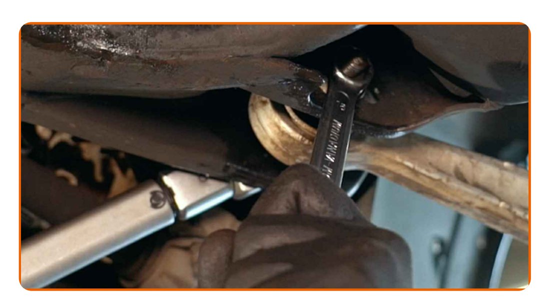
71

Tighten the lower fastening of the shock absorber. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a drive socket #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 90 Nm torque.



72

Tighten the fastener connecting the control arm to the subframe. Use a combination spanner #18. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 80 Nm torque.+90°

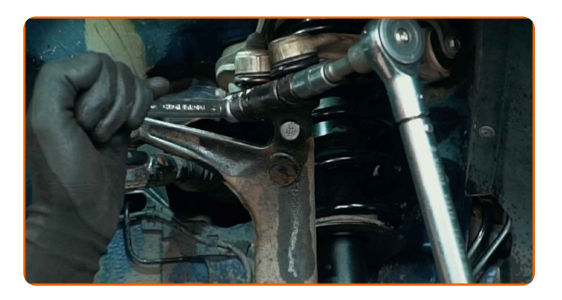


AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

73

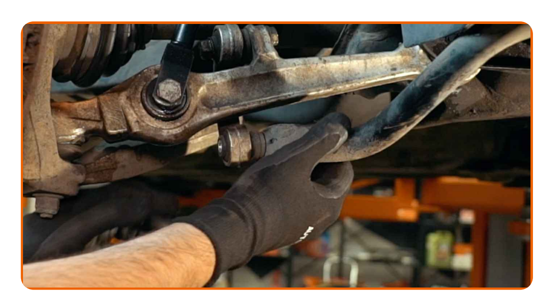
Tighten the upper arm fastenings. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 40 Nm torque.







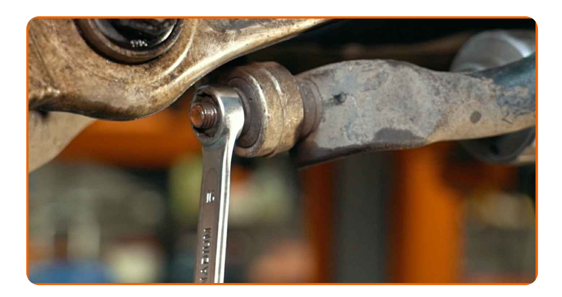
74 Install the transverse stabilizer link.



75 Install the fastening bolt.



76 Tighten the stabiliser link fastener. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a ratchet wrench.



77 Tighten the fastener connecting the stabilizer link to the stabilizer bar. Use a combination spanner #16. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 40 Nm torque.+90°

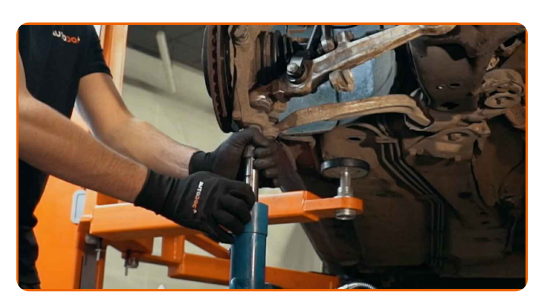
AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.





78 Remove the support from under the steering knuckle.



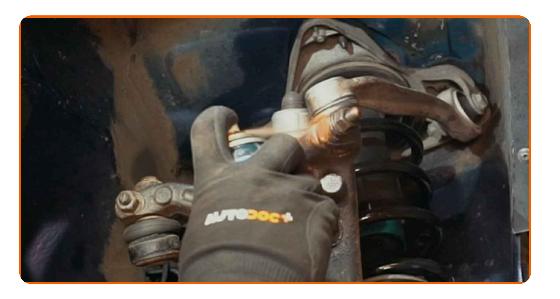
AUTODOC recommends:

- Audi A4 B5 saloon – Do not lower the transmission jack sharply to avoid damaging components and mechanisms of the car.

79 Install and tighten the drive shaft bolt. Use HEX No.H14.



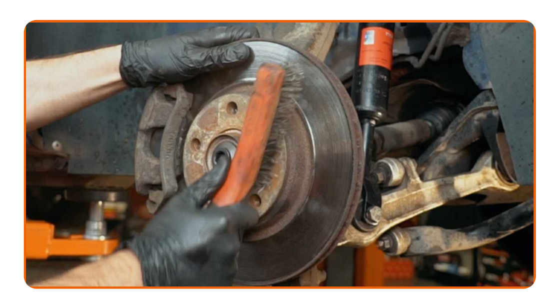
80 Treat the steering knuckle fasteners. Treat the shock strut fasteners. Treat all joints of the stabiliser link. Treat all joints of the arm. Use copper grease.







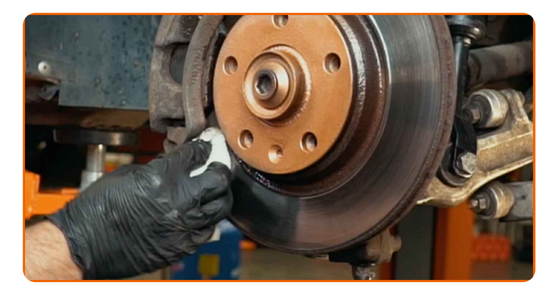
81 Clean the wheel rim mounting seat. Use a wire brush.



82 Treat the surface where the brake disc contacts the wheel rim. Use copper grease.



83 Clean the brake disk surface. Use a brake cleaner.



AUTODOC recommends:

- Replacement: suspension strut – Audi A4 B5 saloon. After applying the spray, wait a few minutes.

84 Install the wheel.







AUTODOC recommends:

- Warning! To avoid injury, hold the wheel while screwing in the fastening bolts on the car. Audi A4 B5 saloon

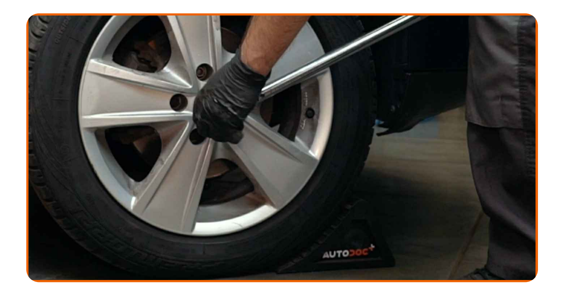
85 Screw in the wheel bolts. Use wheel impact socket #17.



86 Lower the car.



87 Tighten the bolt connecting the drive shaft to the wheel hub. Use HEX No.H14. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 115 Nm torque.+180°



AUTODOC recommends:

- Important! Be sure to use new fasteners.

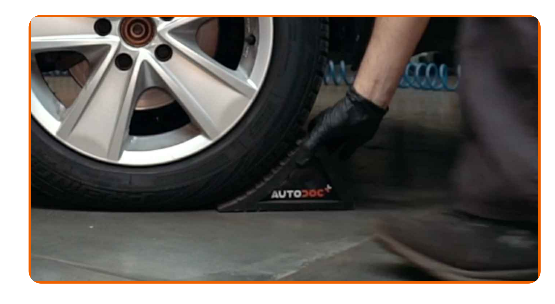




88 Tighten the wheel bolts using a criss-cross pattern. Use wheel impact socket #17. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 120 Nm torque.



89 Remove the jacks and chocks.

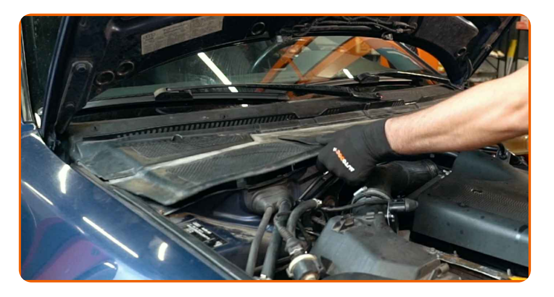


90 Tighten the upper fasteners of the shock strut. Use a drive socket #16. Use a torque wrench. Tighten it to 75 Nm torque.



91 Treat the fasteners of the shock strut mount. Use copper grease.

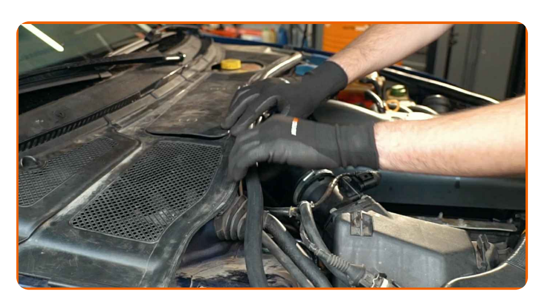
92 Install and secure the cowl grille.



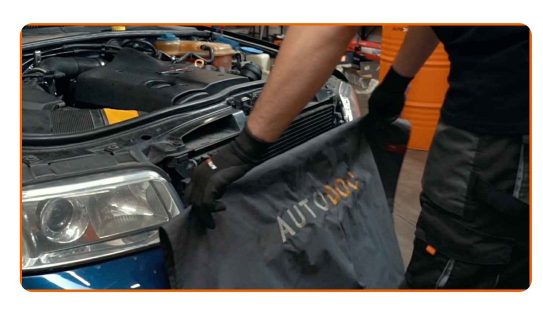




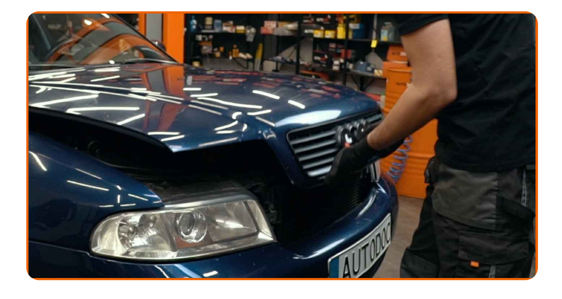
93 Install the cowl grille seal.



94 Remove the fender protection cover.



95 Close the hood.

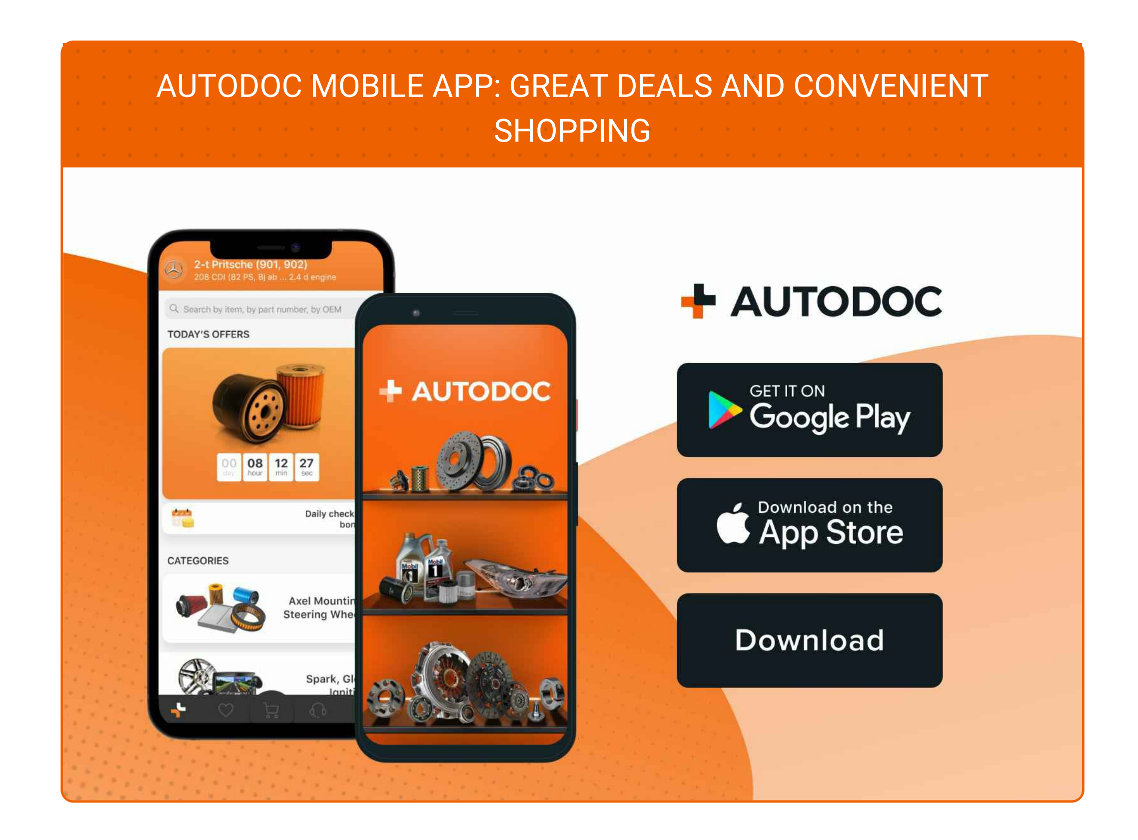


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